

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, MARCH 5, 1942

The Board of Public Works met on March 5, 1942, in the office of the Governor, State House, Annapolis, Maryland.

There were present: Herbert R. O'Connor, Governor
J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller.

Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement, also attended the meeting.

The Minutes of the Meeting of February 10th, 1942, copy of which was sent to each member of the Board, were approved.

CHELTHENHAM SCHOOL FOR BOYS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Cheltenham School for Boys, dated February 17th, 1942, requesting authority to award contracts for additions to the Boiler House and Equipment, and the installation of a Sewage and Water System, for which appropriations are included in the General Bond Issue of 1941.

As a result of the bids received by the school, it was found that the bid of Charles T. King, Inc., for addition to Boiler House and Equipment, in the amount of \$25,723 was low; and, that the bid of Charles J. Spielman Co. Inc., in the amount of \$80,390 was low bid for the Sewage and Water System.

Since the amounts of the bids for the cost of the work were within the appropriation for payment of it, and the request of the school for authority to make the contracts with the contractors was recommended by Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved the request and authorized the execution of the contracts.

COLLECTOR OF STATE TAXES: Allegany County-Second Collection District

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board the matter of uncollected taxes in the account of Mrs. Mary C. Lammert, the late Collector of State Taxes for the 2nd Collection District of Allegany County, for the years 1927 to 1930, inclusive. The amount due, as reported by the State Auditor under date of April 7, 1941, is \$951.89, covering 1927 to 1930, inclusive.

Mrs. Lammert died in March 1937 and while she furnished bond covering her obligations to the State, the surety, Union Indemnity Company, became bankrupt and there is no possibility of effecting collection from that source. The State Auditor, in his report to the Comptroller, recommended that the unremitted taxes be written-off as uncollectible.

The Board approved the recommendation of the State Auditor and authorized the Collector to close the account on his books, accordingly.

COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication from the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, requesting authority to write-off, as uncollectible, two items open on the books of that office as follows:

Nelson C. Long, Baltimore County	\$110.00
Cole Bookman, Baltimore County	25.00.

Attached to the request were reports from the investigators of the office of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Edward Lyden and Lt. G. E. Davidson of the Maryland State Police, showing the impossibility of collection of these items.

The Board approved the request that these two items be written-off as un-

collectible.

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The Comptroller reported that he had obtained information as to the whereabouts of Clayton Howard, formerly of Crisfield, Maryland, who was indebted to the office of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in the amount of \$7.00. The Comptroller gave this information to the Commissioner's office, with the result that collection of the \$7.00 involved was effected.

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY:

Refunds

Alcoholic Beverages Tax Division		\$89.92
Rev. A. B. Kinsolving	\$4.00	
Rev. Frank A. Schwallenberg	3.92	
St. Mary's Seminary, Roland Park	4.80	
St. Mary's Seminary, Paca Street	9.70	
Rev. M. L. McNulty	6.00	
Rev. F. J. McKeown, St. Patrick's Ch.	12.60	
Rev. W. Carroll Milholland, St. Clement's Church	1.92	
Rev. Francis D. McGraw	6.00	
Rev. Gilbert McDonald, St. Michael's Church	1.00	
Rev. Thomas Donaldson, St. Paul's Parish	.48	
Rev. C. Carroll Kerr, St. William's Ch.	.80	
Rev. Robert J. Achstetter	9.70	
Rev. Wm. Baldus, St. Mary's Ch.	2.00	
Rev. Alonzo J. McHugh, St. Charles' College	.96	
Pabst Brewing Company	<u>26.04</u>	
Corporation Taxes		6.71
Simco Sales & Service of Md., Inc.	1.13	
The Original Laurel Assembly, Inc.	<u>5.58</u>	
Title Tax		44.42
Rufus Leon Pickeral	11.90	
Albert Donald Kridler	11.50	
Maryland Drydock Co.	<u>21.02</u>	
Inheritance Tax		16.95
The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board a request for refund of direct inheritance tax from the Estate of William H. Thomas, Sr., deceased, covering tax paid before a mortgage of \$1,711.91 was deducted from the real estate appraisal. The refund was recommended by the Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County and covered by petition and order of Court, dated February 17, 1942.		
The Board approved payment of this refund.		
Recordation Tax		17.20
The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a request for refund of recordation tax paid by Dorchester Contractors, Inc. covering stamps placed on a mortgage to Connecticut General Life Insurance Company which was never recorded, due to another mortgage being drawn and the original mortgage not being used. The original mortgage was submitted to the Comptroller in support of the request for refund.		

Upon recommendation of the Comptroller, the Board approved payment of the refund.

Total

\$175.20

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication received from Mr. Willis R. Jones, Chairman of the Department of Correction, relative to the employment of Mr. James W. Curran as Sales Promotion Manager of our State Use Industries, and the appointment of a salesman to assist Mr. Curran in the work of increasing the distribution of prison-made goods to the various Counties, Cities and Towns throughout the State.

The Board approved the employment of Mr. Curran and an assistant to be known as Sales Promotion Manager II, at an annual salary range of \$1800 to \$2000, said salary to be paid from the Revolving Fund which includes the earnings from sales of the State Use Industries.

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The Secretary advised the Board that Mr. Willis R. Jones, Chairman of the Department of Correction, had been in touch with him and requested that the Board give further consideration to the request previously made for authority to lease a farm in Washington County (Charles D. Coffman, near Maryland State Penal Farm) for the purpose of extending the agriculture producing activities of the Maryland State Penal Farm. Mr. Jones also suggested that his Board be authorized to lease some additional land in the vicinity of the House of Correction, which is available at this time, for the same purpose of raising farm produce.

The Board was not willing to reconsider its previous action in connection with the Washington County property and was not willing to give consideration, at this time, to the leasing of any additional land in the vicinity of the House of Correction.

DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISH:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Department of Game and Inland Fish requesting approval to the purchase of an area of land known as Idlywild Demonstration Area, near Federalsburg, Maryland, in connection with the Pittman-Robertson Act. The land in question contains 563 acres, more or less, including dwelling house and out-buildings, with a total cost of \$4,249.52, of which the State's share will be \$1,062.38, the land being appraised at \$8,784.21. Under the Pittman-Robertson Act the Federal Government will pay 75% of the purchase price.

The Board approved the request for the purchase of this property.

EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL:

The Board approved recommendation submitted by Mr. Kirkman that the Eastern Shore State Hospital be authorized to arrange for the renting of 91 acres of farm land located near the institution, to be operated on a share basis with the owner, the hospital to purchase seed and fertilizer and the owner to do the planting and harvesting and share the crops with the hospital.

EMERGENCY RECONSTRUCTION BOND ISSUE OF 1936:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Wm. A. Codd, Chief Auditor, State Roads Commission, submitting a statement of the current position of the Proceeds of Emergency Reconstruction Bond Issue of 1936, for flood relief. The statement showed total available in the account as \$1,640,405.33, with debits against that amount to December 31, 1941 of \$1,300,336.01, leaving a balance of \$340,069.32 of which it will be necessary to use \$331,180.78 to complete the program of the Commission for work to be done for which the funds are liable for payment, leaving an unobligated balance of \$8,888.54, which it will be in order to revert to the Annuity Bond Fund Account for the State Bond Issue for Flood Relief.

The Board approved the statement and the transfer of \$8,888.54 to the Annuity Bond Fund Account.

HALL OF RECORDS:

See: St. John's College, these minutes.

LEASES:

Mr. Kirkman reported that it was necessary for the Maryland Council of Defense to obtain some storage space in the basement of the Calvert Building, Baltimore, for a short time, at a cost of \$10.00 per month.

The Board approved the rental of this space.

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Mr. Kirkman advised the Board that he had been assisting the State Board of Motion Picture Censors in trying to locate a new office for the use of that Board and that the results of their efforts narrowed the selection down to a location on N. Howard Street, adjoining the Roslyn Theatre. Mr. Kirkman stated that improvements involving approximately \$2,000 would have to be made and the owner would be willing to take care of these improvements provided the State would make a lease for five years for the premises.

The Board felt that a lease for this term would be in conflict with the established policy of the Board as to the length of time to be covered in a lease and suggested to Mr. Kirkman that he confer with the owner with a view to having the time to be covered by the lease reduced. **

MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS:

The Secretary advised of the receipt by the State Treasurer of \$24,295.55 from various insurance companies in settlement of loss of dairy barn by fire at the Maryland Training School for Boys on November 28, 1941. Col. James A. Pratt, Superintendent, requested that this sum be set up on the books of the Comptroller as a special account, under the title "Re-construction of Dairy Barn".

The request was approved by the Board. Authority had previously been given the school for the employment of Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins, architect, for the preparation of plans and specifications for a new barn.

MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR COLORED GIRLS:

Mr. Kirkman stated that he did not have sufficient information relative to the sewerage improvements at the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls to make any recommendation as to the awarding of a contract for the work. It was also stated that the lowest bid was \$4,964.00 but that no tabulation had been received up to this time, nor the names of any bidders submitted.

Mr. Kirkman stated that he would obtain information on this matter and bring it to the attention of the Board at the next meeting.

MARYLAND TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board the fact that a hay barrack at Mt. Wilson Sanatorium was destroyed November 24, 1941, and that the State would receive from the insurance company \$2,526.48 in settlement of its claim for this loss. Dr. Victor F. Cullen, Superintendent, Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium, requested that this amount, to be received, be credited to Item #602 of the institution, for use in re-building the destroyed hay barrack.

The Board approved the request and authorized the credit of \$2,526.48, when received from the insurance company, to Item #602 of the budget of Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium to be used for the purpose of re-building the hay barrack.

** See end of these Minutes - Leases.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Major General Milton A. Reckord, dated March 4, 1942, as follows:

"Mr. Joseph O'C. McCusker, Chief Deputy Comptroller
State of Maryland, Annapolis, Maryland

My dear Joe:

Confirming my conversation of today with you, I hand you herewith the federal disallowances which total \$4775.63. These disallowances represent shortages and losses of federal equipment and supplies of every character throughout the past twenty years.

As explained to Governor O'Connor by letter and to you today, I agreed with the War Department when they gave me the last \$20,000.00 for the Air Corps Hangar that these disallowances would be paid by the State.

I will greatly appreciate it, therefore, if you will present this matter to the Board at its session tomorrow and ask for their authority to make the payment.

Sincerely yours,

(S) Milton A. Reckord."

In the discussion of this matter it was understood that the amount of \$4,775.63 represents the total of a number of items disbursed by the Military Department out of federal funds made available to that department by the Federal Government, which the Federal Government disallowed upon examination of the accounts and records of the Military Department, as they relate to the disbursement of funds made available to that department by the Federal Government.

The Board felt that in view of the many benefits coming to the department from the Federal Government for military purposes, because of the efforts of General Reckord, that is, the help he has obtained in connection with rebuilding the Fifth Regiment Armory, work at Camp Ritchie, the Hangars, and military equipment turned over to the State, and that the State had received the benefit of the disbursements aggregating the \$4,775.63 which were disallowed by the Federal Government, the State should settle the matter by reimbursing the Federal Government for the amount of these disallowances out of the money available to the Military Department in the General Bond Issue of 1939, and the Board approved such a settlement.

MORGAN STATE COLLEGE:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication received from Morgan State College, dated February 21, 1942, submitting statement of the Building Committee of the Board of Trustees of the College, in connection with the construction of Tubman House, the new women's dormitory at that institution, showing a deficit of \$955.24 and requesting that this deficit be charged to the amount available to the College in the General Bond Issue of 1941.

After review of the statement, the Board approved this request of the school.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication, dated February 21, 1942, from the Building Committee of the Board of Trustees of Morgan State College, calling attention to the fact that it was necessary to incur additional expenses in connection with the construction of the new Power House at the institution because of the difficulty encountered with work of excavation because of rock, for the new Power House, resulting in the moving of the site of the new building to a point 25 feet distant from

the site intended for it. The additional expense covers work to be done by -

Steiner Construction Company in the amount of \$782.00
Charles T. King, Inc. in the amount of \$606.00.

This request and authority to expend this additional money was recommended by Mr. Lucien E. D. Gaudreau, architect.

The Board approved the request and the College was authorized to make the additional expenditures.

REGISTER OF WILLS:

See: Comptroller, these minutes, Inheritance Tax.

ROSEWOOD STATE TRAINING SCHOOL:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication dated February 11, 1942, from Rosewood State Training School, calling attention to the fact that nine of the older buildings of the school are of such construction that they are not adequately protected against fire, and suggesting that a sprinkler system be installed, this being the most economical and best protection to eliminate the fire hazard which exists. The letter stated that the cost of such protection would be about \$50,000.

The Board felt that it would not be possible to do anything about the situation at this time because there are no funds available to take care of the cost for the suggested work. It was noted that this was the first time this condition had been brought to the attention of the Board. Whatever is to be done about this matter will have to be given consideration at the time of making up the next State Budget.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE:

The Secretary reported that he had submitted to Judge Carroll T. Bond, Chairman of the Hall of Records Commission, as directed at the last meeting of the Board of Public Works, plans of St. John's College for surrounding the grounds of the school with a wall, together with letter received from Mr. W. E. Stainback, Resident Architect of St. John's College. The Secretary also reported that no word had been received from Judge Bond up to the time of today's meeting in connection with this work.

SPRINGFIELD STATE HOSPITAL:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication from Springfield State Hospital, dated February 19th, 1942, requesting that that institution be authorized to proceed with the work of altering one of the buildings in the hospital group for the use of disturbed women for which the Board had approved the use of the sum of \$10,000 of the funds allotted to the institution in the General Bond Issue of 1941, the hospital to do the work with its own mechanics and labor as far as possible and to purchase all of the supplies and materials through the State Purchasing Agent.

The Board approved this request.

SPRING GROVE STATE HOSPITAL:

Mr. Kirkman submitted sketches prepared by Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins, architect, covering proposed construction of cottages at Spring Grove State Hospital to house the employees of that institution and thereby make room for patients in the present quarters of the employees. The reason for the building of individual cottages, it being proposed to construct nine of them at this time with each cottage to contain eight rooms and house sixteen employees, is that it would not be possible to obtain priorities for the necessary materials for a large building in which to house all of the employees. Furthermore, it is recommended by Dr. Silas W. Weltmer, Superintendent of the hospital, that the employees be not housed in one building but that group buildings be erected, as this would tend to provide better arrangements for

employees and permit of segregation as to the different classes of employees; nurses, supervisors, attendants, etc.

Mr. Kirkman was requested to confer with Dr. Weltmer and the architect, and to suggest that a larger unit be built, if it is possible to build it with the materials which are not involved in priorities, and permit the construction to go ahead at this time without any delay because of difficulty in getting the materials. It was suggested that individuals units, approximately three times the size of the proposed units, might be constructed, thereby saving money in the original construction and maintenance in the future.

STATE ACCIDENT FUND:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a report from Mr. Hooper S. Miles, State Treasurer, advising that in accordance with authority heretofore given, he had purchased for the State Accident Fund:

\$50,000 United States Savings Bonds, Defense Series G,
2½%, due February 1, 1954

\$150,000 United States Treasury 2½% Bonds,
due 6/15/1952-55-

on February 25, 1942.

The Board approved Mr. Miles action.

STATE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT COMMISSION:

The Secretary reported to the Board that, as a result of correspondence and verbal discussions with Mr. Charles E. Moylan, Chairman of the State Industrial Accident Commission, relative to the matter of surety bonds to cover certain employees of that Commission, this matter has been satisfactorily adjusted.

STATE PROPERTY:

Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved disposal of certain worn-out equipment and scrap material belonging to the State Roads Commission, as covered by Property Condemnation Reports Nos. 3205, 3206, 3207 and 3208.

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The Board approved the action taken by Mr. Kirkman in authorizing the Miners Hospital at Frostburg to discard an unusable mattress and wooden settees, which were of no further use to the institution.

STATE ROADS COMMISSION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board communication from the State Roads Commission submitting for execution deed dated February 5, 1942 by which the State Roads Commission conveys to the Baltimore Brick Company a certain parcel of land in Baltimore County, as fully described in the deed. The resolution of the Commission, dated February 5, 1942, authorizing the sale of the property and execution of the deed, shows that the land being conveyed is no longer needed for State purposes.

The Board approved execution of the deed and affixed their signatures thereto.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a request of the State Roads Commission, dated February 25, 1942, for approval to deed conveying certain property in Washington County, near Hagerstown, to Frank Carozza, the deed being dated February 24, 1942 and stating that the property is no longer required in connection with the State Roads System of Maryland.

The Board approved this deed and affixed their signatures thereto.

STATE TAX COMMISSION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the State Tax Commission on the subject of surety bonds for the employees of that department who are charged with the responsibility of handling State funds. With the letter there were submitted two bonds covering:

John F. O'Malley, Chief Clerk, in the penalty of \$10,000.00
Walter C. Byrd, Principal Clerk, (foreign corporations) in
the penalty of \$2,000.00.

The State Tax Commission requested suggestions as to the bonding of other of its employees who handle State funds.

The Comptroller was authorized to confer with the Chairman of the State Tax Commission and arrange for proper coverage for the employees of the Commission.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BOARD:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a petition addressed to the Comptroller, in which authority was requested to write-off as uncollectible a list of accounts for the Unemployment Compensation Tax due the Unemployment Compensation Board, aggregating \$80,818.22, this being the first list of uncollectible accounts submitted since the creation of the Unemployment Compensation Board.

In connection with the petition and list, there was submitted a letter from Mr. Zanvyl Krieger, Special Assistant Attorney General for the Unemployment Compensation Board, stating that he had surveyed the list, with a view to determining the uncollectibility of the accounts shown therein, and that he was of the opinion that the request of the Unemployment Compensation Board, that the accounts be written off as uncollectible, was reasonable and he concurred in their request.

After reviewing the detailed list of accounts and noting that in a great many of the cases the accounts were impossible to collect because of receivership or bankruptcy proceedings in which the delinquent taxpayers were involved, and because of the unsuccessful efforts made by the Board to effect collection, it was agreed that the request that the accounts be written off as uncollectible be approved.

However, it was felt that the Unemployment Compensation Board should review their accounts from time to time and in the event of wanting to write-off any accounts as uncollectible, request should be submitted to the Board of Public Works at least once a year so that the accounts would be kept on a more current basis and the books of the Unemployment Compensation Board have eliminated from them such accounts as might be determined as uncollectible and a request for authority to write them off be approved by this Board.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Dr. H. C. Byrd, President of the University of Maryland, outlining his plans for the erection of a new Armory at College Park, for which there is appropriated in the General Bond Issue of 1941 the sum of \$100,000.00. In his letter, Dr. Byrd outlined the plans whereby he expects to obtain from the Federal Government additional money to be added to the appropriation available from the State and that the total cost of the work will be \$260,000.00.

Dr. Byrd requested that he be authorized to enter into a contract with the T. Calvin Owens Construction Company, under which all materials necessary for the erection of the skeleton of the building - including the foundation, roof, rigid supports, floors and columns, all of which will be of reinforced concrete, would be purchased by the State, and that the work would be supervised by the construction company for a flat fee of \$10,000.00. This would complete the skeleton of the building and would put the University in a position to obtain additional funds from the Federal Government to take care of the cost of completing the building by completing the inside partitions and side and end walls, to purchase and erect the mill work, and to do the heating, wiring and plumbing. Dr Byrd, further stated in his letter, that

this matter has already been discussed with the Federal officials and some assurance given that a grant sufficient to do this work will be provided.

After discussing the matter at length, the Board approved the plan outlined by Dr. Byrd in his letter of February 26, 1942, for the erection of the Armory.

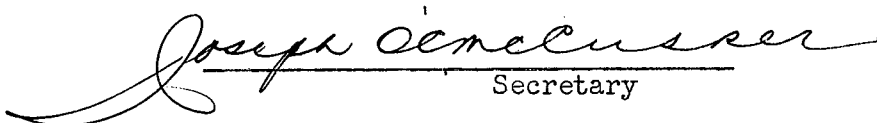
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary

**** LEASES:**

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a lease submitted by Wilson Line, Inc. for rental of Pier 8, Light Street, Baltimore, for a term of five years, beginning May 1, 1942, this being a renewal of the lease expiring April 30, 1942, and in accordance with the option accruing to the Wilson Line, Inc. for such a renewal.

The Board approved the renewal lease and the members affixed their signatures to it.


Secretary